

Local High School Artists to Be Featured on Congressman's Facebook Page, Winner's Artwork Will Be Displayed in U.S. Capitol

Washington, DC - Congressman Maurice Hinchey (D-NY) today announced the beginning of the 2012 Congressional Art Competition. The contest is open to all students in grades 9-12 who either reside or attend high school in New York's 22nd Congressional District. For a second year in a row, the competition is going online. Submitted artwork will be featured on Hinchey's official Facebook page and Facebook users will have the opportunity to help select a finalist in the competition. The first place winner will have his or her artwork publicly displayed on Capitol Hill in Washington, DC for one year. Those wishing to participate can learn more by visiting <http://hinchey.house.gov/art>

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"Last year, dozens of students across the 22nd Congressional District submitted some of the most impressive artwork I've seen, and I think this year's competition is going to be even better," said Hinchey. "The artistic tradition in our part of New York has a rich history, and this competition gives us a chance to demonstrate that tradition by showcasing the work of talented young students in our nation's capital. I encourage every high school student to participate, and I wish all of our young contestants the best of luck!"

On April 9, Hinchey's Facebook page will begin hosting the artwork of students participating in the Congressional Art Competition. Facebook fans can help choose a finalist for the competition by giving the thumbs up to artwork they like. Voting will continue throughout the week, and a Facebook finalist will be chosen on Monday, April 23rd at noon. The finalist in the Facebook portion of the competition will then go head to head against finalists selected from each of Congressman Hinchey's district offices. A winner will be announced on May 3rd. To receive continual updates on the competition, Facebook users can like Congressman Hinchey's page by visiting www.facebook.com/mauricehinchey .

The competition, which was initiated by Congress in 1982, includes hundreds of thousands of high school students from across the nation. One piece from each congressional district will be displayed in the Cannon Tunnel of the U.S. Capitol Building in Washington, DC. The winning student will be invited to attend a ribbon cutting ceremony in the nation's Capitol.

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Details for the 2012 competition can be found [here](#) .